Educational Policies Committee Program Proposal, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, November 4, 2011

Utah State University

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Section I: The Request

In Fall 2010, a proposal entitled “Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine, Washington-Utah Cooperative Veterinary Educational Program” was approved to create a Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) degree at Utah State University (USU). In summary, the approved USU DVM degree will be offered through a cooperative agreement with the College of Veterinary Medicine at Washington State University (WSU). Years 1 and 2 of the program are taught to students on the USU Logan campus and years 3 and 4 are taught at the WSU campus in Pullman, Washington. This is the first professional program in veterinary medicine offered in Utah. The original request outlined all aspects of the DVM degree, including faculty and facilities available for the degree, student enrollments, and budgetary implications.

This request is submitted to address the organizational framework for the program and proposes the creation of the School of Veterinary Medicine at Utah State University. The School of Veterinary Medicine will be located within the USU College of Agriculture and administered by personnel in the Department of Animal, Dairy and Veterinary Sciences (ADVS). The School will be responsible for implementation and oversight of the WU 2+2 Program. Upon approval, the School of Veterinary Medicine will be established in January, 2012. Review of student applications for the DVM degree program by the School’s administration will also begin January, 2012 and the first students enrolled in the program will be matriculated in the School beginning Fall Semester, 2012.

Section II: Need

The proposed School of Veterinary Medicine at Utah State University will provide administrative oversight for the approved Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine degree. The School will be the contact for students inquiring about the WU 2+2 program, and will be responsible for decisions on students who apply for acceptance into the program. The School will also provide advisement to students who have interest in pursuing their graduate education either before or after entrance into the DVM program. In addition to allowing a focused approach to the myriad of details needed for the WU 2+2 program, this structure will create a clear demarcation from the undergraduate pre-veterinary (Bioveterinary Science emphasis) program offered by the ADVS Department.

Section III. Institutional Impact

Enrollment: The School will accept 30 students each year into the DVM program for a total of 60 students (40 in-state and 20 out-of-state) across years 1 and 2. In addition to the students enrolled in the DVM degree, the opportunity to obtain a DVM through USU will undoubtedly result in increased enrollments in the undergraduate Bioveterinary Science emphasis and in the various graduate programs offered in ADVS. These potential enrollment increases were described in the DVM degree proposal. Adjustments to teaching and advising assignments will be made within the ADVS Department in order to provide sufficient capacity within the School of Veterinary Medicine.
Administrative Structure: This proposal outlines the creation of an administrative unit named the School of Veterinary Medicine at Utah State University. The ADVS Department Head provides direct oversight of the existing Animal, Dairy and Veterinary Sciences Department, including its degree programs and faculty. This individual will also carry the title of Associate Dean for Veterinary Medicine within the College of Agriculture and serve as the lead administrator for the School of Veterinary Medicine. This position will include oversight responsibilities for the School, including the administration of the WU 2+2 program.

Facilities: No new physical facilities or equipment are required for the creation of the School of Veterinary Medicine.

Faculty: The number of faculty and professional staff will not change because of the creation of the School of Veterinary Medicine. The creation of the School of Veterinary Medicine is an administrative structural change only. All faculty and staff in the proposed School are located on the USU Logan campus.

Section IV: Finances

Costs Anticipated: No additional costs are incurred by the creation of the School of Veterinary Medicine.

Budgetary Impact: No additional funding is needed for creation of the School of Veterinary Medicine. The School simply provides an organization framework for the DVM degree program.